

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested. The present amendment is responsive to the final office action dated May 18, 2006. Claims 1-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oyagi, U.S. 6,292,232 ("Oyagi") in view of Nakamura *et al.*, U.S. 6,344,778 ("Nakamura"), and claim 15 was not addressed by the examiner. Claims 1-4 have been canceled, claims 10 and 15 have been amended, and claims 16 and 17 have been added. It is respectfully submitted that claims 5-17 are patentable over Oyagi and Nakamura. Thus claims 5-17 are submitted for the Examiner's consideration in view of the following remarks.

Independent claim 5 recites, in part, an antenna having "a high-frequency, fixed-gain amplifier for amplifying a reception signal received by the antenna" and a switching circuit, wherein "the switching circuit is controlled in accordance with the control signal to selectively connect one of the high-frequency amplifier and the attenuator circuit to a signal line between the antenna and the output cable."

The Examiner notes that Oyagi does not teach an attenuator circuit and a switching circuit as recited in claim 5, however the Examiner contends that column 3, lines 31-38 of Oyagi implicitly teach an amplifier that can act as an attenuator circuit and can internally switch from amplifying and attenuating. However, the switching and attenuation accomplished by the amplifier of Oyagi is performed by a variable-gain amplifier. (FIG. 1.) Claim 5 also requires that the amplifier be a "high-frequency fixed-gain amplifier." The specification supports this aspect of claim 5, and states that a fixed-gain amplifier must be used when low noise is required. (FIG. 1, element 17; pg. 5 ll.13-15.) The Examiner states that it would have been obvious to replace the variable-gain amplifier of Oyagi with a fixed-gain amplifier of Nakamura, however to do so would remove the ability of the Oyagi

antenna to implicitly switch from amplification to attenuation. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Oyagi and Nakamura do not teach an antenna having "a high-frequency, fixed-gain amplifier for amplifying a reception signal received by the antenna" and a switching circuit, wherein "the switching circuit is controlled in accordance with the control signal to selectively connect one of the high-frequency amplifier and the attenuator circuit to a signal line between the antenna and the output cable." For at least this reason, claim 5 is patentably distinguishable over Oyagi and Nakamura.

Independent claim 10 recites, in part, a receiver having a switching circuit, wherein the "switching circuit is controlled in accordance with the second control signal to selectively connect one of the high-frequency fixed-gain amplifier and the variable attenuator circuit to a signal line between the connector and a circuit in a subsequent stage." Claim 10 is also patentably distinguishable over Oyagi and Nakamura for reasons similar to those for claim 5, in that Oyagi does not teach the use of a receiver having a switching circuit or the use of a fixed-gain amplifier. In addition, replacing the variable-gain amplifier of Oyagi with the fixed-gain amplifier of Nakamura would remove the ability of the Oyagi receiver to switch between amplification and attenuation. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claim 10 is patentably distinguishable over Oyagi and Nakamura.

Claims 6-9 and 15-16 are either directly or indirectly dependent upon claim 5, and claims 11-13 and 17 are either directly or indirectly dependent upon claim 10. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 6-9 and 11-17 are also patentably distinguishable from Oyagi and Nakamura.

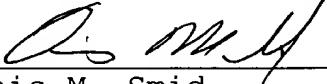
In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested

to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that he/she telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

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Respectfully submitted,

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